Appl. No. 10/598,228
Response to Office Action of June 22, 2010

PATENT
Docket No. NL040199US1
Customer No. 24737

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for creating an icon, the method comprising:

determining a relative importance (I_1, …I_N) of each image (1, 2, … N) of a group of images, wherein the group of images includes a plurality of images (1, 2, …, N), and wherein the relative importance I_i (for i = 1 to N) of each image of the plurality of images (1,2,..., N) is a number between 0 and 1; and

generating the icon <u>automatically in response to determining the relative importance of each image of the group of images</u>, wherein the icon comprises a graphic in a graphical user interface to represent the group of images, wherein the graphic is composed of an adapted selection of images selected from the group of images based on the determined relative importance of each image of the group of images<u>, wherein relative importance of each image evolves and changes every time a factor taken into account for determining the relative importance of the corresponding image changes, and wherein the number of images that are selected to be incorporated in the icon is not fixed, but is an adapted number based on the determined relative importance (I_1, …I_N) of each image (1, 2, … N), further wherein the adapted number of images incorporated in the icon is selected based on a sum of the relative importance of each of the images included in the icon being, at a minimum, a certain predetermined value.</u>

2. (previously presented) The method of creating an icon according to claim 1, wherein the relative importance of each image (1, 2, …, N) is determined based on at least one of:

a time span an image is displayed,

a presence of manual annotations in an image,

a number of times an image has been selected for a slide show,

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a number of copies of an image that have been (i) printed, (ii) sent, or (iii) printed and sent,

an explicit user rating of an image,

a rareness of an image in the group of images measured using image similarity,

a presence of faces in an image detected with automatic face detection, and

a presence of other objects in an image detected with automatic object detection.

3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a layout of selected images of the icon is selected based on the determined relative importance of each image of the selected images.

5. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a size of each selected image in the icon is proportional to the determined relative importance of each image of the selected images.

6. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a position of each selected image in the icon depends on the determined relative importance of each image of the selected images.

7. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the group of images comprises a plurality of stills from a movie.

8. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the group of images comprise a plurality of icons, the plurality of icons representing a group of images, a movie, and a computer program or application.

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9. (previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the icon is a desktop.

10. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

determining a relative order of selected images in the icon based on the determined relative importance of each image of the selected images.

11. (currently amended) A computer system comprising processing means and memory means, the processing means being arranged to communicate with the memory means, the computer system being arranged to create an icon, wherein

the processing means determines a relative importance (I_1, …I_N) of each image (1, 2, … N) of a group of images, wherein the group of images includes a plurality of images (1, 2, …, N), and wherein the relative importance I_i (for i = 1 to N) of each image of the plurality of images (1,2,..., N) is a number between 0 and 1; and

the processing means generates the icon automatically in response to determining the relative importance of each image of the group of images, wherein the icon comprises a graphic in a graphical user interface to represent the group of images, wherein the graphic is composed of an adapted selection of images selected from the group of images based on the determined relative importance of each image of the group of images, wherein relative importance of each image evolves and changes every time a factor taken into account for determining the relative importance of the corresponding image changes, and wherein the number of images that are selected to be incorporated in the icon is not fixed, but is an adapted number based on the determined relative importance (I_1, …I_N) of each image (1, 2, … N), further wherein the adapted number of images incorporated in the icon is selected based on a sum of the relative importance of each of the images included in the icon being, at a minimum, a certain predetermined value.

12. (currently amended) A computer program product to be loaded by a processor in a computer system, the computer system comprising processing means and memory means, the processing means being arranged to communicate with the memory means, the computer program product being arranged to carry out a method for creating an icon, wherein the method comprises:

      determining a relative importance $(I_1, ... I_N)$ of each image (1, 2, ... N) of a group of images, wherein the group of images includes a plurality of images (1, 2, ..., N), and wherein the relative importance I_i (for i = 1 to N) of each image of the plurality of images (1,2,..., N) is a number between 0 and 1; and

      generating the icon automatically in response to determining the relative importance of each image of the group of images, wherein the icon comprises a graphic in a graphical user interface to represent the group of images, wherein the graphic is composed of an adapted selection of images from the group of images based on the determined relative importance of each image of the group of images, wherein relative importance of each image evolves and changes every time a factor taken into account for determining the relative importance of the corresponding image changes, and wherein the number of images that are selected to be incorporated in the icon is not fixed, but is an adapted number based on the determined relative importance $(I_1, ... I_N)$ of each image (1, 2, ... N), further wherein the adapted number of images incorporated in the icon is selected based on a sum of the relative importance of each of the images included in the icon being, at a minimum, a certain predetermined value.

13. (previously presented) A data carrier comprising a computer program product in accordance with claim 12.

14. (currently amended) A method for determining a relative order of selected images contained within an icon, the method comprising:

determining a relative importance ($I_1, \ldots I_N$) of each image (1, 2, ... N) of a group of images, wherein the group of images includes a plurality of images (1, 2, ..., N), and wherein the relative importance I_i (for i = 1 to N) of each image of the plurality of images (1,2,..., N) is a number between 0 and 1;

generating the icon automatically in response to determining the relative importance of each image of the group of images, wherein the icon comprises a graphic in a graphical user interface to represent the group of images, wherein the graphic is composed of an adapted selection of images selected from the group of images based on the determined relative importance of each image of the group of images, wherein relative importance of each image evolves and changes every time a factor taken into account for determining the relative importance of the corresponding image changes, and wherein the number of images that are selected to be incorporated in the icon is not fixed, but is an adapted number based on the determined relative importance ($I_1, \ldots I_N$) of each image (1, 2, ... N), further wherein the adapted number of images incorporated in the icon is selected based on a sum of the relative importance of each of the images included in the icon being, at a minimum, a certain predetermined value; and

determining the relative order of selected images in the icon based on the determined relative importance of each image of the selected images.

15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (previously presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein the relative importance of each image (1, 2, …, N) is determined based on at least one of:

    a time span an image is displayed,

    a presence of manual annotations in an image,

    a number of times an image has been selected for a slide show,

    a number of copies of an image that have been (i) printed, (ii) sent, or (iii) printed and sent,

    an explicit user rating of an image,

    a rareness of an image in the group of images measured using image similarity,

    a presence of faces in an image detected with automatic face detection, and

    a presence of other objects in an image detected with automatic object detection.